

SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE

Transactions of a Day by the Assembled Solons at Pierre.

HOUSE SIFTING COMMITTEE BEGINS WORK

Senate Finally Passes the Dispensary Bill with Amendment that Prohibit Licensure of Saloons.

PIERRE, S. D., Feb. 27.—(Special Telegram.)—The house sifting committee presented its first report Monday morning, recommending four senate bills and twenty-two house bills for consideration. Representative Pugh, in an attempt to place the fusion members on record against Aberdeen and Watertown normal measures, offered a resolution endorsing the action of Governor Lee in vetoing those bills. His desire was to force the fusionists to declare themselves before any action could be taken on the resolution endorsing the action of Governor Lee in vetoing those bills. His desire was to force the fusionists to declare themselves before any action could be taken on the resolution endorsing the action of Governor Lee in vetoing those bills.

General Reyes, the insurgent leader, fled for protection to the British consulate at Bluefields. He will surrender without further resistance, thus closing the revolution. General Rouleau also captured a schooner near Monkey Point, containing some twenty-five refugees Nicaraguans, who were enroute for Bluefields.

NICHOLAS FIRM ON THE THRONE. Rumors that Czar is Incapacitated Are Said to Be Groundless.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—(The Standard.)—The czar, Nicholas II, is said to be unable to attend to affairs as he is without foundation. The fact from which he suffered has become less frequent in recent years.

Grievances of the Liquor Dealers. OMAHA, Feb. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: An editorial in your issue of the 25th inst. does the liquor dealers of the Nebraska Retail Liquor Dealers' Protective association it devolves upon me to make a few corrective statements.

House bills were passed appropriating \$5,236 to pay a judgment against the state held by Lyman county; changing elections in incorporated cities from Monday to April; changing the time for quarterly meetings of county commissioners from Monday to Tuesday; appropriating \$500 to Adjutant General Humphrey for services.

The militia appropriation and bill to abolish publication of certificates of nomination were killed. On motion of Dwight, the veto message on ballot reform bills was made a special order for tomorrow. The committee on agriculture reported favorably on senate bill sugar bounty bill. Glass called up the governor's veto message on the Watertown Normal school bill and it failed to carry over the veto by 40 to 39. A reconsideration was secured and it was set for a special order for tomorrow afternoon.

A message from the senate announced the passage of the dispensary bill and the effort was made to force it through at once by a motion to give it first and second readings and instruction to the committee on liquor to report tomorrow morning. First and second readings were secured, but the motion to compel the committee to report was killed by a vote of 43 to 34.

The forenoon in the senate was taken up with the dispensary bill, Bouck again trying to force into it his amendment, specifically providing that it was subject to the referendum clause. He lost. Smith secured an amendment that the present license laws shall remain in effect until the dispensary bill is put into operation. It then passed, 28 to 6. Stewart gave notice of a motion to reconsider which ties it up for one day.

In the afternoon Stewart withdrew his notice of reconsideration and the dispensary bill was clinched and sent up to the house.

The house initiative and referendum bill was then taken up and an effort made to amend, which was lost and the bill passed without change. The house members were divided for it, but protested that they believed the bill as drawn was impracticable and that the protest appear on the journal. The senate went into committee of the whole on three bills looking toward the establishment of an emigrant bureau and an effort to indefinitely postpone all action in this direction was lost. The bill which was recommended for passage provides that the commissioner of school and public lands shall assume the duties of the office and provide him with an additional clerk and appropriation for carrying it into effect, which passed 31 to 6.

House bills were then passed, appropriating \$25,000 for a dormitory at the Spearhead Normal school to appropriate \$35,000 to establish an asylum for feeble minded at Redfield and appropriating \$22,000 for a dormitory at the Madison Normal school.

On the request of state officials Attorney General Pyle today presented two opinions, one at the request of the auditor, holding that the house has power to increase the pay of its employees at any time before adjournment and another on the request of the superintendent of the state penitentiary, holding that there is no warrant in the law for the county superintendents of the Black Hills counties to hold a joint teachers' institute of all the counties instead of a separate institute in each county.

GOVERNMENT PLATS MUST STAND. Important Land Decision is Rendered in South Dakota.

YANKTON, S. D., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—Judge E. G. Smith of the First Judicial circuit has just returned from Parker where was settled a question of the great importance to land owners in South Dakota. The case was that of Cope Brothers against Frederika Eckert, in a suit brought to fix the ownership of twenty-five acres of land. The jury decided that the official plat and field notes of the United States surveyors are to be considered the sole authority in adjusting boundaries.

Numerous cases are to be found in the more thickly settled sections of the state where the matter of the plat and field notes by government surveyors have in some manner been moved, and eventually the owners of land that adjoin find themselves involved in a dispute as to where the corners really are located. For instance, a man supposes that he is owner of 160 acres, a civil engineer is employed to survey his farm and finds it to contain less than the 160 acres, but nevertheless the corners or mounds are in evidence that his supposition was correct, while the man whose land adjoins, and who has more than 160 acres, insists that the corners are correct. Then arises the question of the government survey.

This Turner county case has decided that the government intended that each quarter section should contain the full 160 acres, and that whether the corners or mounds have been moved or not the plats and field notes of the government must stand.

A new mammoth Catholic church will be erected at Taylor, near Homestead, this spring, the estimated cost being \$11,000. Twelve hundred loads of building material have been hauled to the site and as soon as weather is favorable work will begin.

Truant Captured. SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Feb. 27.—(Special Telegram.)—Joseph, the 15-year-old son of Treasurer Olson, who yesterday purloined \$1150 from his father's safe and took the \$1150 Central train for the east to see the world, was captured this afternoon at Cherokee, Ia.

Several inches of snow have fallen here during the last forty-eight hours and it is drifted badly.

Princeton is on the Way. WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The gunboat Princeton sailed from Suva today for Aden. It is bound for Manila, where it should arrive in about three weeks.

Earnings of Santa Fe. CHICAGO, Feb. 27.—The January statement of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad shows net earnings \$556,153, increase \$362,328 over January, 1898. For the seven months ending January 31 net earnings were \$17,069,911, an increase of \$505,524 over the corresponding period of the year before.

REVOLUTION COMES TO END

Nicaraguan Rebels Are Fugitives and Government Troops Hold Country About Bluefields.

CANNED MEAT GENERALLY CONDEMNED

Refrigerated Article Gives Better Satisfaction—Troops Find No Fault with Efforts of Officials Considering the Circumstances.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—When the army corps of inquiry into the beef charges met today after its two days' recess it expected to begin the examination of some of the enlisted men of the army who had not only eaten the canned meat but had also eaten it in quantities, wherein they differed from most of the officers who were also in arriving, however, and the first witness was Lieutenant Charles F. Dwyer, Ninth infantry, now at Mallon barracks. This witness had only a vague memory of what the meat complement of the ration was on the voyage from Tampa to Santiago. He knew that after the command landed the meat had been, corned beef and canned roast beef. There were numerous complaints as to the canned roast beef, but there was no official action taken on these complaints, as it was difficult to get anything in the way of ration to the front and the army felt that the commissary department was doing the best it could.

After the capture of Santiago witness was stationed altogether in the city and his command getting the refrigerated beef early in the day, it was always fresh and good and he had no objection to its quality. He had made no report on the beef after returning and should not have felt it his duty to do so, except under orders. He had been made sick on one occasion by eating the meat, but he had no other complaints, his health had not suffered.

Brigadier General Robert D. McFeeley, who was commissary general of subsistence from 1875 to 1890, testified that during his service he had recommended the introduction of the travel ration with a view to bettering the condition of the soldiers. Prior to that the men often had suffered on long trips in trying to live for several days on what was then known as the "cooked" ration, which consisted of bread and meat, without even coffee.

Colonel Davis read the records referring to these orders dated from 1875 and showing that "canned fresh beef" was included as a part of the travel ration.

Evolution of the Ration. General McFeeley said that General Sherman was the commanding general of the army at that time and that he was consulted on the introduction of the "travel ration." Witness said he had seen all the articles then included in the ration—beans, cheese and canned meats—in frequent use on hunting expeditions and had found them good. This was his reason for selecting them. His recollection was that general satisfaction was expressed in the reports on the introduction of the travel ration. Cheese afterward was dropped from this ration, not because it did not like it, but because it lacked keeping qualities, especially in hot weather.

Regarding the fresh meat supply in the civil war, General McFeeley said it was usually obtained from a herd of cattle driven with the army, either by the government or by contractors. At the time of his retirement from office he said he thought about two-thirds of the army was supplied with fresh meat, but he did not recall having handled any refrigerated beef for the army during his incumbency.

During the Indian campaigns in the west beef herds sometimes have been driven and some of the men who collected them, on one occasion where a herd of young "Cayuse" ponies had been driven along and killed, in lieu of beef. "It was a very good change from straight beans," said the old soldier, who had been in the army for 40 years. "I don't know if it was horse meat but it was a very good change from straight beans."

The enlisted men who were expected did not arrive until late and the court went into session at 10 o'clock.

A party of six enlisted men of the Ninth infantry next appeared. First Sergeant Howard Alexander testified that his regiment used both corned and roast canned beef on the voyage from Tampa to Santiago. There were many complaints from the men as to the canned roast beef. It nauseated the men, had little taste and apparently contained little nutriment. Witness was asked to explain as fully as possible what the object of the ration was, but he was evidently much embarrassed and had little descriptive ability, and beyond saying that the men did not like the meat and could not eat it he had little to say. He said that after the ration was changed to the travel ration, one can of beef being three days' ration for one man, and each man got at least one meal out of each can. They got to throwing the cans away as the meat made them sick. The witness was willing to testify whether or not the canned meat or the malaria that caused most of the sickness in the regiment.

Effect on Soldiers' Health. After getting into the city, where the refrigerated beef was issued, the men continued to be very sick. They were nauseated and suffered from bowel trouble. The sergeant thought this also came from the refrigerated meat; the gravity especially that came from the refrigerated meat seemed to nauseate the men even more than the travel ration. He said that one man who was a witness said a can would not keep more than four hours after opening. He said also that the can was an inconvenient package to carry in the haversack with the rest of the ration. That there is no reason why any soldier should support it is plain, but that does not alter the fact that some men have been very sick and some have died. The part of the refrigerated beef at Santiago which was sick on leaving Cuba and 50 per cent actually on sick report.

Repeating to Colonel Gillespie, Buckeye said from June 22 to July 22 the ration averaged one-half short. Asked if he thought the command actually suffered in health from this lack of food, he replied very emphatically, "I think it did. I saw it. I saw the men were not disposed to complain at all, as they felt the officers were doing all they could for them under the circumstances."

Sergeant's Terse Description. Sergeant Budson Hatch, also of the Ninth, was then called. His testimony agreed substantially with the two preceding witnesses. He summed up of the canned roast beef as "rotten," "stale," "sour," "rancid," "to the point of being inedible," as to what was the matter with it, was laconic.

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HEARING OF PLAIN SOLDIERS

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KIPLING HOLDING HIS OWN

Friends Have Some Hope that the Illustrious Author Will Recover.

CRISIS IN HIS CASE EXPECTED TODAY

Doctors Constantly at His Bedside and Doing All Which Modern Science Can for Him—Helped by Strong Constitution.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—The following Kipling bulletin was issued at half past 8 o'clock this morning:

Mr. Kipling has been during the night and is still very ill.

E. H. JANEWAY. THEODORE DUNHAM. The condition of Rudyard Kipling was so low this morning that when anyone with authority was asked concerning him the reply was made that "He is still alive."

Mr. Kipling was watched closely all night long and there was a physician in his apartment continuously.

No news came from the sick room during the early morning till 2:40 o'clock, when a hall boy was informed by F. N. Doubleday, the publisher, who has been with Mr. Kipling since the beginning, that the author was still alive and that at that hour he was holding his own.

At 6 o'clock Mr. Doubleday was asked for further information. He said he was glad to say Mr. Kipling was still alive. When asked about the physicians' gave recovery Mr. Doubleday said he could not tell.

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